



## English Language Proficiency Requirements – Graduate Students

Proficiency in English is required for graduate study at Stevens Institute of Technology.

The ability to communicate effectively in English—to read, write and speak the language fluently—is vital to one’s success as a graduate student. Therefore every international applicant must demonstrate English Language proficiency by submitting the results of a TOEFL or an IELTS test (see exemptions).

Stevens must receive official TOEFL or IELTS test scores before the Office of Graduate Admissions can process and review your application.

### English Language Proficiency Requirements for Acceptance

1. Students accepted to Stevens who have achieved the following minimum English language proficiency test scores will be exempt from further English Language & Communication (ELC) requirements:
  - 86 on the TOEFL iBT<sup>1</sup>
  - 567 on the TOEFL PBT<sup>1</sup>
  - 7 on the IELTS<sup>2</sup>
2. Students who fall into the following ranges will be required to complete the ELC requirement:
  - 79 – 85 on the TOEFL iBT<sup>1</sup>
  - 550- 563 on the TOEFL PBT<sup>1</sup>
  - 6.5 on the IELTS<sup>2</sup>

These students must take an English Language Communication (ELC) course during their first semester at Stevens. This course will be either Level I or Level II, based on a review and analysis of sub-scores, and is taken along with a regular course load in the student’s graduate program.

Students in this category may place out of the EDC requirement by taking and passing the Stevens English Communication Proficiency Exam (ECPE), administered by Stevens before they enroll in their first semester of study. (There is a fee of \$50 for the ECPE).

3. Applicants with English proficiency test scores within the following ranges will be required to complete the EDC requirement by completing an intensive English language communication program during their first semester:
  - 74 - 78 on the TOEFL iBT<sup>1</sup>
  - 537 – 547 on the TOEFL PBT<sup>1</sup>
  - 6 on the IELTS<sup>2</sup>

### IMPORTANT NOTES

All scores must be sent to Stevens Institute of Technology, Office of Graduate Admissions. The Stevens code for TOEFL/IELTS is: 2819. Stevens accepts only official TOEFL /IELTS scores submitted directly by the testing agency. No photocopies of any scores will be accepted. The TOEFL or IELTS scores must be



dated within two years of the time your application is processed for review by the Office of Graduate Admissions

The Office of Graduate Admissions will not process any applications that are incomplete and without a TOEFL or IELTS score. Upon review and acceptance into a program, and submission of financial documents an I-20 will be issued. Check the TOEFL or IELTS web sites for testing schedules and other requirements and arrange to take the test in a timely manner so as to avoid delays in processing your application.

## **EXEMPTIONS**

Students whose native Language is English and/or have earned a 4-year Bachelor's degree from a university at a country where English is the native language, are not required to submit English language proficiency tests scores.

International students who have earned a 4-year Bachelor's degree from an accredited university/college where all instruction is conducted in English (other than the case outlined above) are required to take the TOEFL or IELTS test and submit their scores. Certain students, highly proficient in English, may choose to file a petition to take the English Communication Proficiency Exam (ECPE) offered by Stevens, in lieu of the TOEFL or IELTS. This exam focuses on the assessment of the student's written, oral, and comprehension skills. (There is a fee of \$50 for the ECPE). See petition guidelines below.

### Petition Guidelines:

All applications submitted before the decision on the petition for waiver is made, will be considered incomplete and will remain incomplete until a score is submitted or a waiver is granted. The following steps must be followed by those requesting a petition to take the ECPE in lieu of TOEFL/IELTS tests:

- Official transcript of a Bachelor's degree from an Accredited University/College, which states that all instruction was conducted in English. If official transcripts have already been submitted to Stevens prior to submitting the petition a copy will be accepted. (Required)
- Official GRE/GMAT score (total score along with score/percentile for both verbal and analytical writing/AWA sections); if official scores have already been sent to Stevens a copy of the score report will be accepted (Required)
- Candidates must submit a copy of their passport ID page and their Skype ID (required)
- Any additional information to support your demonstrated English proficiency

### How to Apply?

All documents must be emailed to [gradadmissions@stevens.edu](mailto:gradadmissions@stevens.edu) with the subject line "Request for TOEFL/IELTS Waiver". Following receipt of the above documents, the petition will be considered complete and will be reviewed by the Office of Graduate Admissions.



### Review Process:

During the review process, a Skype video interview will be conducted with the applicant. In some cases additional information may be requested. The entire review process will take 1-2 weeks before a decision on the waiver is made.

Once approved, the student understands that he/she will be required to take the ECPE exam upon arrival to Stevens. For requests not approved, a TOEFL/IELTS score must be submitted for the application package to be complete and processed for review.

### **OTHER English Language Communication COURSES/WORKSHOPS**

Students who wish to continue on with their English Language development to enhance their English proficiency are encouraged to do so. Advanced courses, workshops and Language Lab facilities are available to students. In some instances, a student's advisor may recommend or require additional ELC programs. More ELC information can be found [here](#).

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### FOOTNOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The TOEFL is administered by Educational Testing Service (ETS). It is currently offered in the two formats: internet- based (TOEFL iBT) and written, paper- based test (TOEFL PBT). Please note that not all test formats are available in all countries. Official test scores must be sent by ETS directly to Stevens Institute of Technology and must be received by Stevens within two years of the test date. For more information visit [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)

<sup>2</sup> International English Language Testing System (IELTS). The IELTS is jointly managed by the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations, the British Council and IDP Education Pty Ltd. IELTS has 2 versions – Academic Version and General Training version. The Academic test is for those who want to study at a tertiary level in an English-speaking country. The General Training test is for those who want to do work experience or training programs, secondary school or migrate to an English-speaking country. Applicants to Stevens must take the Academic version. Official test scores (Test Report Form) must be sent by the testing agency directly to Stevens Institute of Technology and must be received by Stevens within two years of the test date. For more information visit [www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)